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The BG News March 28, 2012

Bowling Green State University

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THE BG NEWS

ESTABLISHED 1951 A student newspaper serving the campus and surrounding community

VOLUME 91, ISSUE 80

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28 & THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2012

A TANGLED WEB

The campus community addressed the government's ability to seize websites for suspected illegal activity. See **LOCAL** on **PAGE 3**.

WWW.BGNEWS.COM

Student groups coordinate campus abortion debate

By Bryan Warrick
Reporter

There are many hot button topics making the headlines today. While some argue about the economy or the war in Afghanistan, one topic that divides many Americans is the discussion of abortion.

It is this emotional and strong divide that led students to host a structured and respectful abortion debate this Thursday, said Peter Range, lead campus minister for St. Thomas More University Parish.

"When you look at the issue of abortion, you have two different ways to approach it from," Range said. "People feel very strongly on both sides and believe the other side to be misguided. This can lead to high emotions when talking about it."

The debate was organized by Veritas, the Christian Catholic Student Life Group that normally hosts similar events, but its members realized that a debate featuring speakers for the other side as well would be more constructive, said Eric Bower,

WANT TO GO?

- **What:** Abortion Debate
- **Where:** 101 Olscamp
- **When:** 7 p.m. Thursday
- **Speakers:** Scott Klusendorf and James Croft
- **Hosts:** Veritas and Bowling Green Secular Society

president of the Bowling Green Secular Society that is now co-hosting the event.

"We thought it would be an excellent opportunity for discussion," Bower said. "Hopefully the atmosphere will lead to a uniting of the community over the idea of healthy debate and talking."

The focus of the debate will be two professional speakers, one brought in by each group, who will discuss and answer questions about abortion, according to a press release emailed by Veritas.

The speaker for the abortion rights arguments will be James

See **DEBATE** | Page 2

Apparel for Awareness

Student-created business NiceShirt.org collects money for select causes

By Tasneem Almuhananna
Reporter

For Skyler Rogers, helping others and making an impact has been a lifelong passion.

When he was a junior in high school, Rogers collected money for charity using gum ball machines.

Today, Rogers has taken his cause to the next level.

Along with senior David Cullen and graduate student Wes Parsell, Rogers recently created NiceShirt, a company that donates money to a particular cause or organization by selling apparel inspired by that cause.

In summer 2011, Rogers was involved in the TEDx conference at the University. Rogers met a few students at the conference and after working well together, they realized they all had an interest in social entrepreneurship.

Using a business framework in order to make the world a better place, they began to talk about starting a business.

"A normal company operates on making as much money as possible ... maximizing profits and shareholder value," Rogers said. "Social entrepreneurship focuses on how much good is done to the world."

In January 2012, Rogers and his two business partners created the company, which sells limited edition T-shirts and hoodies online.

The focus of NiceShirt is finding a nonprofit organization, studying its cause and creating a campaign for it, he said. The apparel is then designed to support a specific cause; with each item sold, \$8 will be donated to that cause.

"We realized there was a need for both nonprofit organizations to raise money and fundraisers in communities," Rogers said. "If someone has been diagnosed with cancer and there are unexpected medical bills ... they are in need

See **SHIRT** | Page 8

Student city council member seeks to ban texting while driving

New proposal improves on city's failed 2009 attempt

By Tyler Buchanan
Reporter

Daniel Gordon is wasting no time in dispelling criticisms regarding a University student's effectiveness in city council.

Just a few months into his two-year term representing the city's 1st Ward, the senior political science major is taking on the issue of texting while driving in what he calls his "first substantive legislation."

Several constituents had voiced their concerns regarding the dangers of texting distractions, prompting Gordon to develop a survey to gauge further public opinion. With an online and hard copy of the poll being circulated to hundreds of city citizens, Gordon said nearly 80 percent support a ban on texting behind the wheel.

If passed, the city would join dozens of other cities with similar legislation, including Columbus, Cincinnati and Toledo. While 35 states currently outlaw texting while driving, Ohio holds no state law prohibiting it, according to the Governors Highway Safety Association.

A previous attempt at restricting cell phone usage in vehicles failed in 2009, when a bill introduced by council member Bob McOmber was

TEXTING AND DRIVING STATISTICS

- 28 percent of all traffic crashes involve drivers using cell phones
- 200,000 crashes a year are attributed to texting while driving
- 35 states ban text messaging for all drivers
- Ohio has no law banning texting while driving

Sources — National Safety Council and the Governors Highway Safety Association

shot down by voters, Gordon said. This time the proposal would be voted on by just the seven city council members.

Gordon, a member of the Community Improvement Committee and chairman of the Transportation and Safety Committee, maintained that public feedback would be critical to the legislative process, despite no citywide vote.

Along with the preemptive survey, constituents would have the opportunity to voice support or dissent of the bill at subsequent city council meetings, he said.

Despite the preliminary support, the proposed ban already has its share of critics.

See **TEXTING** | Page 2



WHAT 'NICE SHIRT' DO YOU WANT TO SEE?

Tweet @The_BG_News with the hashtags #bgsu and #niceshirt to let us know!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Elections for new Undergraduate Student Government members are next week from April 2 to April 5. Read The BG News and www.bgnews.com for a question and answer series this week so you can make a more educated vote.

HOW DO YOU PLAN TO INCREASE PRIDE AND SPIRIT ON CAMPUS AND HOW WILL YOU GET STUDENTS ON BOARD WITH YOUR IDEAS?



ALEX SOLIS
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE



DAVID NEELY
VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE



TABITHA TIMBROOK
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE



JON ZACHRICH
VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

"I think increasing pride is something that's going to start with David and I, and we're going to need the whole USG. We need to start with the basics like Falcon Fridays, Falcon Fanatics, SIC SIC ... we're looking into the possibility of an incentive program."

—Alex Solis

"Jon and I really want to use USG's talent to help increase pride and continue to make sure the campus reflects that we have pride ... through things like the Union being orange and brown, Falcon Fridays and making sure the students get their voice heard."

—Tabitha Timbrook

BGNEWS.COM

Fraternity hosts anniversary weekend

Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity will celebrate its 70th anniversary this weekend. Check out our website Thursday for more details about the event.



SPORTS

Women hit the road

The softball team is prepared to face the University of Michigan on Wednesday in Ann Arbor, Mich. The team's current record is 15-9. | **PAGE 7**



FORUM

Marathon revives memories

Columnist Phillip Martin describes how students can revive their childhood by getting in touch with what he calls "your inner nerd." | **PAGE 4**

What organization or cause deserves a "Nice Shirt?"



"Children and toddlers with terminal diseases."
ASHLEY RAMOS
Junior,
Criminal Justice

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BLOTTER

MON., MARCH 26

9:25 A.M.

A Bowling Green Police Division officer noticed graffiti on Needle Hall at City Hall.

2:02 P.M.

An unknown person took a Garmin GPS, a Nikon Digital

Camera and a book bag containing paperwork from a vehicle within the 800 block of Third St. They were valued at \$150, \$200 and \$20, respectively.

3:41 P.M.

An alleged assault victim spoke to a police officer about an assault that happened within the 300 block of Campbell Hill Road in the early morning hours of March 25. An unknown female allegedly punched,

kicked and bit the victim.

ONLINE: Go to bgnews.com for the complete blotter list.

CORRECTION POLICY

We want to correct all factual errors. If you think an error has been made, call The BG News at 419-372-6966.

TEXTING

From Page 1

Nathan Eberly, chairman of the Libertarian Party of Wood County, said the bill would be unnecessary due to already existing driving laws regarding distractions.

"There is no additional need for regulation and laws determining texting bans and cell phone use within cars," Eberly said.

Enforcement could also raise problems, said Eberly, also a candidate for the State House of Representatives Third District.

"One cannot really determine when somebody is texting," he said. "The Libertarian Party stands for a very simplified code of law."

Gordon, however, said

criminalization is not the driving force behind the legislation.

"The spirit of this bill is not about punishment, it's about education and deterrence," he said, adding that likely punishments would be fines increasing with each violation, as is the case in other Ohio cities with such laws.

Another concern for critics is the problem of time and resources spent while enforcing the bill if it were to pass.

Potential implementations of the law, such as subpoenaing cell phone texting records, would not cost the city council anything, Gordon said.

While Eberly ideologically opposes such regulations, he approved Gordon's willingness to listen to the concerns of his constituents.

"I definitely appreciate that process," he said.

Regardless, the Libertarian Party will look into voicing complaints at committee hearings and beyond if the law were to be passed, Eberly said.

As Gordon continues to gather public support for his proposals, he said he looks forward to his committee hearings for the next step in the legislative process.

"It's not about freedom, it's about safety," he said.

City Administrator John Fawcett could not be reached for comment.

WANT TO VOICE YOUR OPINION ON THIS PROPOSAL?

An online version of Gordon's survey can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/s/5jlxjrj.

DEBATE

From Page 1

Croft, a doctoral candidate at the Harvard Graduate School of Education who is the vice president of the Humanist Graduate Community at Harvard and elected Fellow of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce.

The speaker for the anti-abortion arguments will be Scott Klusendorf, the founder and president of the Life Training Institute in Atlanta, Ga. He is a graduate of UCLA who has debated or lectured to student groups at more than 70 colleges and universities around the nation. He is also the author of "The Case for Life: Equipping Christians to Engage the Culture."

While the focus of the debate is to have a respectful conversation,

there is always the chance that it might turn heated between students and other listeners in the audience, Range said.

"I think the problem is the political climate in this country today," he said. "Whether you are pro-life or pro-choice, the trend is to demonize the other side. We want to recognize our common humanity and come together for an intelligent, measured and rational discussion on the issue."

It is this need for a controlled and rational talk that made this debate so necessary, Bower said.

"We have concerns this could get out of hand," he said. "But at the same time, that's why we decided to do it. People need a legitimate way to get their beliefs out there and be heard, while also hearing others."

While the event will mainly focus on the two guest speakers debat-

ing and rebutting, the students will get a good amount of time for questions and answers with the host of the event and the speakers themselves, according to the press release.

"I think it's so important to get as many students there as possible so they can ask questions," Range said. "I want them to ask questions and not be afraid of getting made fun of or afraid of what the answer may be."

The University community is very open-minded and can learn a lot from the event without it turning into a fight or yelling, Bower said.

Debating and discussion can even be healthy and constructive for both sides, Range said.

"If you don't ask the questions and just ignore the issue, then you don't get anywhere and you don't further your own education," he said.

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HORACIO CASTELLANOS MOYA was born in El Salvador. For two decades he worked as the editor of news agencies, magazines and newspapers in Mexico, Guatemala and his own country. As a fiction writer, he was granted residencies in a program supported by the Frankfurt International Book Fair (2004-2006) and in the City of Asylum program in Pittsburgh (2006-2008). He has also taught in the Writing Program at the University of Pittsburgh. In 2009, he was guest researcher at the University of Tokyo with a fellowship granted by the Japan Foundation. Currently he is an Assistant Professor at the University of Iowa. He has published ten novels, five short story collections and a book of essays.

Tuesday, April 3, 2012
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His novels have been translated into ten languages; four of them: *Senselessness*, *The She-Devil in the Mirror*, *Dance with Snakes* and *Tyrant Memory* are available in English.

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Website policy stirs controversy

Government shuts down sites believed to harbor illegal activity, raises due process questions

By Seth Weber
Reporter

The days of a free Internet may soon be gone as the United States attempts to regulate it.

Any web domain name with endings like ".net" or ".com" is now subject to seizure by the federal government.

This means if a website is doing something the government deems wrong or illegal, its profits will be seized and it will be shut down and replaced with a notice of seizure by the federal government, according to a statement by the government's Operation In Our Sites. This operation, from the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center, is intended to protect intellectual property rights.

No matter which country the website is based in, it can be shut down. This is because VeriSign, a U.S. company, manages these domain names, according to the website Wired.

This is the reason some websites like ThePirateBay have changed their domain names to ".se" to indicate their servers are located in Sweden and exempt from U.S. jurisdiction, according to The New York Times.

Although shutting down websites such as this may not look like due process, there is more that happens behind the scenes, said Victoria Ekstrand, an associate professor in the Department of Journalism and Public Relations who teaches media law and ethics classes.

The PIPA and SOPA bills sought to get rid of this due process, she said. In order to shut down a website, authori-

ties must have permission from the courts to do so.

Ekstrand said although it's hard to argue for sites that promote illegal activity, she doesn't think dismantling the site is the best first step.

"It appears to be an easy solution, but that doesn't mean it's the right solution," Ekstrand said.

One example is the shutdown of the website Megaupload months ago.

Although Megaupload harbored illegal activity, many people stored files for their jobs and school on the site, according to the website TorrentFreak. This became a big issue when those files were lost forever because of the shutdown.

The government should return what was legitimate material, Ekstrand said. Even then, it would still feel like censorship because the government would be looking through the files and determining which should be sent back to the public.

Some students also disagree with the government's actions.

"It's basically another definition for censorship," sophomore Kyle Bailey said.

The issue isn't spoken about enough, and more people need to know about it, he said.

Other students, however, think it's fair for the U.S. to shut down websites if they harbor illegal activity.

Sophomore Mitch Albright said if a website hosts illegal activity, such as a gambling site, it's fair to shut it down.

If a website's activity is only illegal in certain areas, it should be shut down in those areas, he said.

DAMAGED INNOCENCE



STEPHAN REED | THE BG NEWS

VICTORIA SCOTT, freshman, replaces crosses in Carillon Park at the "Cemetery of the Innocent" anti-abortion exhibit sponsored by Veritas. University Police responded when a man was reportedly seen damaging crosses in the exhibit Tuesday evening. For more information about the incident, visit BGNEWS.COM.

POLICE PREPARE CITIZENS FOR PATROL



ALYSSA GANNON | THE BG NEWS

MARK MCDONOUGH, coordinator of Citizens On Patrol, talks to nearly 30 volunteers — University students and BG citizens alike — during a training session Tuesday at the Bowling Green Police Division. C.O.P. provides an opportunity for those in the community to patrol city neighborhoods to report and possibly curb criminal activity. Patrols will start April 13 from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m., during which the volunteers will be given two-way radios in order to report any suspicious activity directly to the police.

For more
photos look
online at
BGNEWS.COM

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY



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PEOPLE ON THE STREET *What cause or organization deserves a "Nice Shirt?"*



BEN SCHROCK
Junior,
Finance

"Victory Junction Gang; they help kids with terminal diseases."



KELLY MCANDREWS
Freshman,
Film

"St. Jude's."



JOHN SANTINO
Freshman,
Dietetics

"Make A Wish Foundation."



SIDNEY PARKHILL
Junior,
Visual Communication Technology

"The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation."

VISIT US AT
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Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Send us an e-mail at thenews@bgnews.com

Self defense laws are too vague, unclear



MATTHEW THACKER
COLUMNIST

Trayvon Martin, 17, was shot while walking unarmed on the sidewalk of a gated community that his father's girlfriend lived in. He had walked to the store from his father's girlfriend's house to get a bottle of iced tea and a bag of Skittles.

The man who shot him, neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman, has not been arrested for Martin's death even though he called 911 about Martin and was told by the operator to stop following Martin and leave him alone.

Zimmerman has not been arrested — and it has been said that even if he were to be arrested, he would probably not be convicted for murder — because Florida is one of 24 states with a "stand-your-ground" law.

Under these laws, people are permitted to "use deadly force in self-defense when there is reasonable belief of a threat, without an obligation to retreat first." But this definition is a vague one at best, and leaves us to wonder "What constitutes a reasonable belief of a threat?"

The thing about a threat is that we all have different

qualifications in our heads for what is threatening. If someone is afraid of clowns, then seeing a clown may provide a very real (although non-existent) threat that is exclusive to that person.

So should that coulrophobic (yes, that is the actual term used to describe a fear of clowns) person not be held accountable for their actions if they choose to shoot that clown? Because of a perceived — not an actual — threat?

Of course, they should be held accountable. To shoot and kill someone in cold blood just because of a perceived threat based on stereotypes and ignorance is ridiculous and unacceptable by the whole of society.

That, at least, was what I thought before hearing and reading about the Trayvon Martin case.

But it seems to be exactly what happened to Martin. He was murdered for walking in a mostly white neighborhood after dark while being a young black male.

And now that the boy is gone and cannot defend himself, Zimmerman supporters and defenders are trying to ruin his reputation to justify an unjustifiable homicide.

The story that broke Monday was that, at the time

See **THACKER** | Page 5

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Male perspective on contraceptives is skewed

As a man and as a student, I was offended by the article "Fluke statements raise entitlement concerns."

It matters little if the author thinks that ovarian cysts are rare (they're not); the point I'm trying to make is that this goes beyond men.

It scares me that so few

people realize how outrageous it is for men to be so up in arms about whether or not a woman uses birth control.

The author's argument is that he shouldn't have to pay for what he labeled "entitlements" for females.

I'm rather confused because he is not paying for free or discounted birth control, the taxpayers are.

Although he is a taxpayer, I

think it is asinine and insulting to misrepresent the nature of the argument by insinuating that he personally is paying for birth control for people he doesn't know.

If he is offended by the idea of having birth control provided under a mandate or otherwise, that is his right, but there will always be something our taxes go to that we don't support.

I'd like to think I'll get a check in the mail from the government saying, "Sorry we used your money to murder civilians with careless drone strikes, here you go," but it's not going to happen.

To the author, you are not a woman. Let it go.

—Ian Zulick
izulick@bgsu.edu

PARTY AT MY PLACE



TAYLOR WILKES | THE BG NEWS

Campus convention brings childhood revival Poetry competition inspires empathy



PHILLIP MARTIN
COLUMNIST

Animarathon happened Saturday, and it means three things to me:

You can revive your childhood, embrace your "inner nerd" with your friends and expose yourself to things you may come to like.

Let's start with childhood revival.

Many of us grew up playing Mario or Super Sonic on old-school game systems, and some of us read anime like it was Harry Potter at home.

I was not one of those children, so when I visited Animarathon last year as a freshman, I felt very out of place. But I thought it was so cool how people went out of their way to dress up and become the characters they

grew up with.

I have a lot of respect for the fans who don't care how they look for an entire day. I feel joy and happiness for their spiritual revival.

This year, a few distant colleagues from church dressed up as the Teen Titans. For those of you who don't know, the Titans are a DC comic. Cartoon Network and the WB also ran an animated series from 2003 to 2006, which my sister and I are more familiar with (My favorite Titan is Raven).

I was looking forward to joining them because it would be my first true Animarathon experience, but I could not for a few "personal" reasons. I feel bad for letting them down, but I know they had lots of fun.

Let's talk about embracing the "inner nerd," shall we?

I asked a question to one of my colleagues' boyfriends about the Titan named Starfire. I wanted to know the

term for the orbs of energy she throws in battle.

He told me information I didn't know from the comics and then called himself a nerd.

I chuckled and told him I believe we all have a little nerd or geek in us, and that it's good to embrace it when we can.

I told him about my uncle who basically owns a small library of anime and games at his home.

When I think of nerd or geek, I have a positive connotation — we can be so engrossed in something that brings joy to us.

I'm sort of a nerd with my weird taste in music. I like mostly smooth jazz and Motown, and I also like Michelle Branch and a little bit of country.

My ringtone is "Let's Get Started" — my favorite upbeat tune by jazz pianist Brian Culbertson. I'm planning on buying my favorite albums of his, which are "It's On Tonight"

and "Come On Up."

I become upset when people I know tell me they've been to a jazz event, and I didn't know about it or wasn't invited.

I wish I could be like fans of rock music and go visit a Michelle Branch concert.

I wish I could own Stevie Wonder shirts or go back in time and see Smokey Robinson and The Miracles on "The Ed Sullivan Show."

I'm just weird that way.

Guys can be nerdy about everything in the sports world. Likewise, girls can know everything about Pretty Little Liars and Twilight.

Finally, Animarathon symbolizes the overall exposure I've experienced at the University.

The only characters I've recognized are from Star Trek or Star Wars, but there's others I never knew existed.

See **MARTIN** | Page 5



ALICIA RIEDEL
COLUMNIST

leading poets in the 2008 competition through their preparation and participation in the event.

Seeing these students pour their lives and hearts into their performed poetry was breathtaking.

All of these students worked hard preparing their teams for the competition and came to cheer on each other, on as a diverse group of young poets.

Their poems are art, stories and always the encouragement to breathe, to live.

When each poet steps onto the stage, he or she becomes the incarnation of thoughts and feelings often held only in the mind. For Nova Venerable, it was the

See **RIEDEL** | Page 5

THE BG NEWS

ASIA RAPAI, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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THE BG NEWS SUBMISSION POLICY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are generally to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.




POLICIES: Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com

with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing. The editor may change the headlines to submitted columns and letters at his or her discretion.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of **The BG News**.

THE FORECAST CALLS FOR ...

Today	Tomorrow	Friday
		
Snowy	Sunny	Stormy
High 22° Low 5°	High 87° Low 72°	High 64° Low 30°
15% chance of skipping class	80% chance of skipping class	70% chance of transferring schools

CHRISTINA GREEN | THE BG NEWS

RIEDEL

From Page 4

experience of caring for her brother Tony, who lives with the challenges of autism, diabetes and seizures. It is not merely her reflection on their relationship but the thoughts and emotions of her ongoing experience.

Numerous poems may be found online that similarly allow the viewer to share the experiences of the speakers through their performances. For the audience to be able to share these thoughts in this way not only communicates the truth of experiences and awareness of issues but also builds communities of empathy.

Through the documen-

tary, the motto of "Louder Than a Bomb" was repeatedly shared: "The point is not the point. The poetry is the point."

Each poem performance is scored by judges because, after all, it is a competition.

However, the competition is not the point. The point is the value of the poems being shared and the poets sharing them.

In classes we may say the grades are not the point. The point is the learning. Just like in the competition, the points and grades may reflect the value of the poems and the level of learning that has taken place.

Ideally, they should reflect this. But there is a difference between going into a class to learn and going into a class

for a grade.

In the class that we're in for a grade, minimum goes and retention isn't a long term goal. If we're in the class to learn, there isn't a question of minimum or grades. The questions have to do with the topic or skills being learned.

On a larger scale, when looking at life as a whole, we may say something similar. The money is not the point. The point is the life.

Money is important and we use it to support our lives. However, we start having problems when the money becomes the point.

It can be easy to stress over support, especially when debts rise or when jobs are hard to find.

Just as it can be easy to

stress over grades.

Relating back to the competition, it could be easy to focus on point values. But if we let that take over, we lose the value behind what we do.

Seeing the documentary "Louder Than a Bomb" has helped me to continue reflecting on my own life and ways I need to refocus. While you may not be up for watching this great documentary immediately, I encourage you to check out some slam poetry on YouTube if you haven't already.

In addition, I pass on Gottlieb's call: "Poet breathe now."

Respond to Alicia at
theneus@bgnews.com

THACKER

From Page 4

of his death, Martin had been suspended from high school because school officials found a plastic baggie with traces of marijuana left in it in his school book bag.

Pundits on the right have pointed to this fact as if it is some smoking gun that proves Martin was a juvenile delinquent, even though the Associated Press confirmed — via a public records request — that Martin had no prior juvenile police record.

"They have killed my son," said Martin's mother, Sybrina Fulton, at a news conference Monday. "And now they are trying to kill his reputation."

I heard Sean Hannity saying on his radio program Monday that this new information will help people to see that they "jumped to conclusions" about Martin's innocence too early.

I would like to ask Hannity, "In what way?" I don't see the connection, personally.

Do you mean to tell me that as long as this young man had made at least one mistake in his lifetime that justifies his murder?

I sure hope not, because if that is the criteria with which we begin judging each other, then surely a lot of us will be killed next.

Even if Martin was a pot-head of the highest caliber, it still does not mean that he in any way earned the

punishment given to him by Zimmerman.

In Zimmerman's defense, he has claimed Martin attacked him first and he shot him in self-defense.

But what about Martin's right to stand his ground? Zimmerman had been following Martin for quite a while before approaching him.

Isn't it plausible to think that Martin noticed that he was being followed — remember Zimmerman was a neighborhood watch member in plain clothes — and felt legitimately threatened by it?

Vaguely written laws like the "stand-your-ground" law are inexcusable and ultimately cause more questions than they answer.

Laws like that are written expressly to be too vague, in my opinion, to allow for the defense of otherwise indefensible crimes.

In that way, Florida's "stand-your-ground" law worked just as it was intended to.

But I am reminded of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who quoted St. Augustine in his famous "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," saying "I would agree with St. Augustine that 'an unjust law is no law at all.'"

So would I, Dr. King, so would I.

Respond to Matthew at
theneus@bgnews.com

MARTIN

From Page 4

I've been exposed to other great things here.

I've tried to play Euchre, but I'm terrible, and I always thought it was spelled with a "Y" until this year.

Last year, I watched Jersey Shore for the first time, and I now know who Snooki is. She and the other girls abuse hairspray!

I still have to watch "Super Senti" episodes my classmate told me were on YouTube.

I watched WWE for the first time with two of my floor-mates. I've taken a liking to Sheamus, John Cena and C.M. Punk. The story may be staged, but the beatdowns are not fake!

The most important thing above all is that I've been exposed to a great community at H2O Church. I love and respect the people there, and they get the mission of seeking the Lord Jesus Christ.

Respond to Phillip at
theneus@bgnews.com

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Assistant coach helps gymnastics team flourish

Chad Wiest excels in his first season with Falcons after being promoted to full-time position, helps set foundation for future

By Daniel Sierra
Reporter

Chad Wiest knows what it takes to excel in gymnastics.

As a freshman at the University of Illinois in 2007, Wiest led an experienced Illini team on his best event — the floor exercise.

Wiest's performances earned him a fifth-place national ranking at the end of his freshman season. When it came time to deliver at the NCAA Championships, the Butler, Pa., native over-performed, finishing in third place.

Wiest fought through injuries the next two seasons to return

to form in 2010, making regular appearances for the Illini on floor exercise, vault, parallel bars and high bar.

In his final two seasons, Wiest reveled in success. As a junior, he set a school record, scoring a 16.1 on floor exercise. He followed that up by winning the Big Ten floor title at the end of his senior year, in front of a home crowd in Champaign, Ill.

"My time at Illinois was great," Wiest said. "If I could live it over again I would. It was the best time of my life, being on a team with my brothers, pretty much."

When Wiest ended his five-year run with the Illini in 2011, he, like

so many college graduates, didn't know what would come next.

His love and knowledge of gymnastics led him toward coaching. But with only 19 collegiate men's gymnastics programs in the country, the odds were slim that he could break into that arena without prior coaching experience.

His focus shifted to women's teams, and Wiest searched for open positions. After months with no luck, BG gymnastics head coach Kerrie Beach gave Wiest the one thing he had been longing for — an opportunity.

The position wasn't a dream job, by any means. It was a part-time



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assistant coaching gig, complete with a stipend that was just enough for Wiest to continue living like a college student. While it wasn't much, getting his foot in the door of collegiate coaching proved invaluable.

"Chad was a pleasant surprise," Beach said. "I didn't know much about him when he applied for the

position. But just being willing to take on a part-time second assistant position to get some experience opened my eyes. He thought it was worthwhile."

And he was right. Wiest joined the staff as the second assistant in November, less than two months before the start of season. In January, after coaching two meets for the Falcons, Beach's primary assistant left the staff for personal reasons. Wiest's role changed in an instant.

With the gymnastics season

See **GYM** | Page 7

On the field and under the lights

Rugby player Mike Brown leads team with prior experience playing in South Africa

By Max Householder
Reporter

The BG Rugby Club has a history of bringing in high-end players from across the world with much experience.

This past semester, it saw the likes of Alex Hopkirk, a British foreign exchange student who wanted to see how rugby was played in the states.

It's not very often a United States rugby team has a player come along with the experience of playing in South Africa, a rugby enthusiast nation that has won two of the last three rugby world cups.

That is exactly what BG got in fall 2009 when current player Mike Brown joined the squad.

Brown lived in the states until the ripe young age of 12, when he and his dad moved to South Africa. It was there that Brown became a real student of the game and learned how to play rugby the right way.

"Not only playing in a nation that big into rugby benefited me, but I feel that by watching some of the top athletes in the game I was able to see the game differently," Brown said.

Coach Tony Mazzarella is always looking for ways to make his team better. When he met Brown on a preview day in 2009 and heard about his playing days

See **RUGBY** | Page 8



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Shelby Wilson earned a tie for 27th place with a score of 160. Team captain Amy Ruthenberg finished in the top half of the field with her score of 162. Bailey

Arnold and Paula DiFrancesco each posted final scores of 167 to end the tournament in a tie for 52nd place.

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The team returns to action April 6 at the ECU Lady Colonel Classic in Richmond, Ky.



NATHAN ELEKONICH | THE BG NEWS

KELSEY BENSON takes a chip shot from the fairway onto the green to get another stroke closer.

GYMNASTICS

Falcons send record number of gymnasts to Regionals

For the first time in school history, the gymnastics team is sending four gymnasts to Regionals. The four individuals, Jamilah Ali, Megan Harrington, Gina Locigno and Danielle Wishart will compete at Auburn University at 7 p.m. on April 7. Harrington and Locigno will compete in all-around, Ali will perform on beam, and Wishart on vault.

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ANDREA ARNEY BG softball second baseman swings at a strike and makes contact. Arney started all 44 games this past year at second base and was ranked fourth in batting.

By The BG News Sports Staff

Michigan comes into the game sitting atop the

"The three aspects of the game are offense, defense and pitching,"

Infielder Katie Yoho leads the team with a .370 batting average and freshman pitcher Paris Imholz leads the Falcons with a 1.49 ERA.

The Falcons had played the Wolverines before last season, losing a close game by a score of 4-2.

LAUREN POFF | THE BC NEWS

LINDSAY KOCH, a BG gymnast coached by Weist, preforms her dismount. Weist has assisted in all areas of the team, but specializes in floor and vault.

From Page 6

"It's the first coaching job that I've gotten, so I didn't really know what to expect," he said. "The things that came the most naturally

Vault and floor remained BG's highest scoring events throughout the season, and Wiest instilled in the team his competitive fire — still blazing from championship glory less than a year ago.

Together, Beach and Wiest coached the Falcons to a marked improvement this year, raising the team's average score from 190.865 at the end of 2011, to a 193.63 to close out 2012. The Falcons also qualified four gymnasts to the NCAA Regional

"I love coaching and I love gymnastics and I wanted to be a part of the collegiate atmosphere," he said. "I think BG gymnastics has a bright future. We have a young team, so I think it's just going to go up from here."

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To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved. Just use logic to solve

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3	4	7	8	9	1	6	5	2
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From Page 6

"Mike is one of the more gifted players on the team, both athletically and scholastically," BG Rugby

Roger Mazzearella | Rugby Director

The Falcons have struggled as of late, going just 1-3 in their first four, but hope to bounce back this weekend.

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By Daniel Sierra
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With the gymnastics season

See GYM | Page 7

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See RUGBY | Page 8



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ANDREA ARNEY BG softball second baseman, swings at a strike and makes contact. Arney started all 44 games this past year at second base and was ranked fourth in batting.

Softball looks to top U of M in midweek matchup

By The BG News Sports Staff

The Falcon softball team will head to Ann Arbor this Wednesday to play the University of Michigan.

"Playing Michigan is always a challenge," head coach Shannon Salsburg said. "They always seem to be a top 25 team."

Michigan comes into the game sitting atop the

Big Ten with a 21-9 record.

This game will be the Falcons' last game before they start MAC competition, and a strong result against a strong opponent could give the team a lot of momentum going forward.

"The three aspects of the game are offense, defense and pitching,"

Salsburg said. "We need to do two of them every game to be successful."

The Falcons have relied on their strong batting and pitching early this season.

Infielder Katie Yoho leads the team with a .370 batting average and freshman pitcher Paris Imholz leads the Falcons with a 1.49 ERA.

The Falcons enter the game with a 15-9 record. "But more importantly than our record is that we have improved every single week," Salsburg said about the team's early season play.

The Falcons had played the Wolverines before last season, losing a close game by a score of 4-2.

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU								
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RUGBY

From Page 6

in South Africa, he was intrigued.

"Mike came to us on Presidents Day winter of 2009, and [when] he told us about how he grew up playing in South Africa, both me and my dad's eyes lit up," Mazzarella said. "From there we took him out to dinner and he seemed very knowledgeable about rugby and that was all we needed to hear."

Brown plays the hooker position, which has developed into really a fourth flanker position. Hookers have some size to them, yet still are athletic enough to move the ball from side to side.

Mazzarella describes Brown as more of a "hybrid" type at this position because he has enough size to fill out the position and is still one of the more athletic players on the team.

Since Brown is used to playing on one of the biggest rugby stages in the world, he is also used to the spotlight by now. It is because of this that Brown is one of the more humble players on the team and refuses to let his talents go to his head.

"Mike is one of the more gifted players on the team, both athletically and scholastically," BG Rugby

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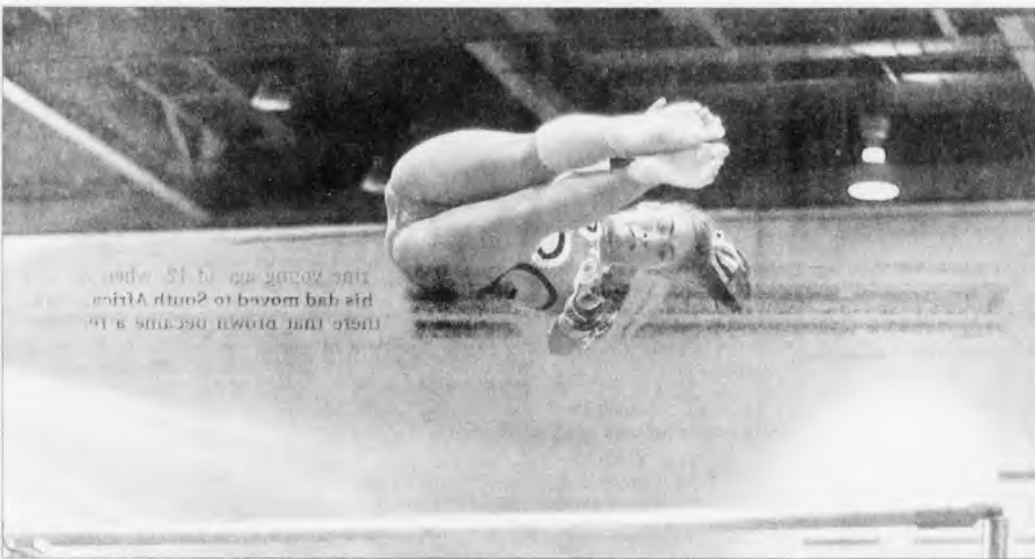
Roger Mazzarella | Rugby Director

Director Roger Mazzarella said. "He is what I would characterize as more of a silent leader, a guy who really leads by example, and most of the guys respond well to his presence."

Brown was at his best in a game against Indiana during the fall season when he was directly involved in the Falcons getting the 30-27 victory. Both Tony and Roger described him as being in the right place at the right time; on that day their descriptions held true when he stole a scrum late in the game against Indiana, which led to the game-winning try.

That was one of his most memorable moments from fall season, but it won't be the last, as Brown and the rest of the Falcons will continue play Saturday under the lights at Doyt L. Perry stadium against Michigan.

The Falcons have struggled as of late, going just 1-3 in their first four, but hope to bounce back this weekend.



LINDSAY KOCH, a BG gymnast coached by West, performs her dismount. West has assisted in all areas of the team, but specializes in floor and vault.

GYM

From Page 6

already underway, there was no chance to secure another coach. Beach, Wiest and their 18 gymnasts were in it for the long haul.

For Wiest, the extra responsibilities piled up. Overwhelmed, he relied on what he knew to get through the season.

"It's the first coaching job that I've gotten, so I didn't really know what to expect," he said. "The things that came the most naturally

to me were floor and vault. I was a good tumbler, so I know the techniques and I knew I could use that to help improve my girls."

Wiest's expertise paid off, as BG was ranked No. 1 in the Mid-American Conference on floor for the early part of the season, soaring to as high as No. 20 in the national standings.

Vault and floor remained BG's highest scoring events throughout the season, and Wiest instilled in the team his competitive fire — still blazing from championship glory less than a year ago.

"He's developed into this really, really great college coach," Beach said. "I can't thank him enough for the level of support and the competitiveness he's put into our athletes. He loves gymnastics and he brings that to our team, so it's been an excellent fit."

Together, Beach and Wiest coached the Falcons to a marked improvement this year, raising the team's average score from 190.865 at the end of 2011, to a 193.63 to close out 2012. The Falcons also qualified four gymnasts to the NCAA Regional

Championships — the most in program history.

Beach has big plans for BG gymnastics next year, and Wiest will undoubtedly play a substantial role in the future of the program. Even though his days as a gymnast are through, Wiest continues to overperform.

"I love coaching and I love gymnastics and I wanted to be a part of the collegiate atmosphere," he said. "I think BG gymnastics has a bright future. We have a young team, so I think it's just going to go up from here."

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SHIRT

From Page 1

of support ... and if there is a website online it can make their life a lot better and raise more money."

An application is available on the business' website, NiceShirt.org, where anyone can submit a cause or organization in need of additional funding, Rogers said. This helps the company reach out to the cause and become aware of it in order to create newly designed apparel.

A team of designers from across the country is working with the company on a project basis to create different T-shirts or hoodies for each cause, he said.

"Each campaign we do typically runs between one to three weeks," Rogers said. "After that we have a new campaign with different apparel for a different cause."

NiceShirt has campaigned for the Chardon High School shooting and worked with the University's chapter of Alpha Xi Delta sorority to launch a

new shirt campaign released Wednesday to help support the families affected by the March 2 car crash on Interstate 75, Cullen said.

"We want to use our tools in order to raise support and awareness for them," he said.

The company has also worked with nonprofit organizations, including Stop Hunger Now, which is an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and other life-saving aid around the world, Rogers said.

"If there's a tsunami or something similar they come in and bring meals to help everyone keep going," he said. "We did a week long campaign for them and raised 1,800 meals."

The company has also worked with Operation Ward 57, a nonprofit organization supporting wounded soldiers and their family members, as well as those that aid in their recovery, Rogers said.

"We did a T-shirt that said: 'For the wounded the fight never ends,'" he said. "The feedback we received was unbelievable. People affected were so excited for the chance

to wear that for their family or community member."

Junior Alecia Hitchman, a regular NiceShirt customer, said the company is effective because it allows people to feel connected through their website and social media networks.

"The idea of having limited edition apparel sold between Monday and Sunday adds a sense of urgency and awareness to that cause," she said. "If I know that a particular T-shirt will not be available anymore after a specific time, I would go ahead and buy it."

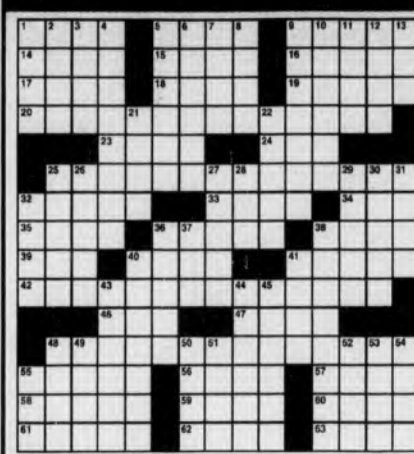
NiceShirt's ultimate goal is to become an automated online fundraising platform in order to allow those from various countries to create a fundraising campaign, Rogers said.

"It takes quite a bit of an investment to have a website that can do this automated ... but that's where we are headed," he said.

WANT TO BUY A 'NICE SHIRT'?

Visit NiceShirt.org.

The Daily Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Summoned, with "for"
5 Skedaddle
9 Travolta facial feature
14 Symphony member
15 Okla., from 1890 to 1907
16 Pick up
17 Carnival sight
18 Slight advantage
19 Plus
20 Redundant position?
23 "The Time Machine" people
24 Low in a lea
25 Redundant alert?
32 Traffic stopper
33 Beauties
34 South American vacation spot
35 IRS employee
36 Pay
38 Pizzeria fixture
39 Poetic time of day
40 View from Toledo
41 Sitcom set at Mel's Diner

- 42 Redundant habit?
46 Nothing but ... perfect hoops shot
47 Kiss and cuddle, British-style
48 Redundant guesses?
55 Trucks
56 Prefix with stat
57 All-night party
58 Oscar night VIP
59 Detective Peter of old TV
60 Canadian tribe
61 Hamlet in "Hamlet" and others
62 Auto pioneer
63 Driven drove

DOWN

- 1 VMI program
2 Victim in Genesis
3 Taboo
4 Settles a score
5 Apply, as a brake
6 Comedian ... the Entertainer
7 Golden Fleece vessel
8 "Jurassic Park" menace, briefly
9 Dins
10 Tissue abnormality
11 Houston-to-Tampa direction
12 Glenn of The Eagles
13 Explosive letters
21 Stylish vigor
22 Mosque officials
25 Anouk of "La Dolce Vita"
26 Sturm und ...
27 Halloween vandal, perhaps
28 Teeny
29 "The Empire Strikes Back" director
30 Reunion attendee
31 Departed

- 32 Silver fineness meas.
36 Ire
37 ... Jordan: Nike brand
38 Member of a small ruling class
40 Poetic laments
41 Speck
43 New
44 Belgian seaport
45 Marriages
48 1960 Olympics city
49 Sea predator
50 Consequently
51 Rabbi's house of worship
52 Container weight
53 Penultimate fairy tale word
54 Future flower
55 Address bk. entry

ANSWERS



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3 BR house, unfurn, 139 S College \$900/mo, inclds. gas, dep. req. Avail. 8/15/12, year lease. Call 419-601-3108.

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3BR house, 2 full baths, all appl incl, pet friendly, \$900/mo +utils, 326 Leroy, avail July 2012. Call 419-308-2676. www.bgtolorent.com

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